



INVESTIGATOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

All or some of the information you provide may become available to the public.

OMB # (1024-0236)
Exp. Date (11/30/2010)
Form No. (10-226)

Reporting Year: 2008	Park: Shenandoah NP	Select the type of permit this report addresses: Scientific Study	
Name of principal investigator or responsible official: William McShea		Office Phone: 540 635 6563	
Mailing address: Conservation and research Center 1500 Remont Road Front Royal, VA 22630 US		Office FAX 540 635 6506 Office Email mcsheaw@si.edu	
Additional investigators or key field assistants (first name, last name, office phone, office email)			
Name: Patrick Campbell		Phone: 202-342-1443	Email: j_patrick_campbell@nps.gov
Name: Laura Belleville		Phone: 540-953-3564	Email: lbelleville@appalachiantrail.org
Name: James A. Comiskey		Phone: 540-654-5328	Email: jim_comiskey@nps.gov
Name: Michele Miller		Phone: 717-258-5771	Email: mmiller@appalachiantrail.org
Project Title (maximum 300 characters): Pilot Project for Carnivore Survey Along Appalachian Trail			
Park-assigned Study or Activity #: SHEN-00332	Park-assigned Permit #: SHEN-2008-SCI-0005	Permit Start Date: Apr 01, 2008	Permit Expiration Date: Mar 31, 2009
Scientific Study Starting Date: Apr 01, 2008		Estimated Scientific Study Ending Date: Mar 30, 2009	
For either a Scientific Study or a Science Education Activity, the status is: Continuing		For a Scientific Study that is completed, please check each of the following that applies: <input type="checkbox"/> A final report has been provided to the park or will be provided to the park within the next two years <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of field notes, data files, photos, or other study records, as agreed, have been provided to the park <input type="checkbox"/> All collected and retained specimens have been cataloged into the NPS catalog system and NPS has processed loan agreements as needed	
Activity Type: Monitoring			
Subject/Discipline: Mammals			

Purpose of Scientific Study or Science Education Activity during the reporting year (maximum 4000 characters):

The purpose of this study is to develop a protocol for monitoring predator species along the Appalachian Trail. The pilot study will occur April-November 2008 along the AT in Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland. The survey will use infra-red trip-cameras to photograph wildlife species at specific points along the trail. It will rely on volunteers to adopt sections of the trail and agree to move cameras from point to point on a monthly basis. The cameras are digital so the pictures will be shared between the volunteers, the organizations, and the scientists.

The goals of the project, are fourfold:

1. To understand the changes in air and water quality and the health of the plants and animals on lands associated with the trail.
2. To more effectively protect that land's natural resources.
3. To foster public appreciation for nature generally and conservation of the Appalachian Trail specifically.
4. To better tell the story of the status of the health of the Appalachian Trail's lands to visitors, trail neighbors in Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland, and the general public.

Findings and status of Scientific Study or accomplishments of Science Education Activity during the reporting year (maximum 4000 characters):

During 2008 we sampled 266 locations along the Appalachian Trail in Virginia, West Virginia and Maryland. The trip camera was left at each point near the trail for one month between April and November. Of the 60 points in Shenandoah National Park, we photographed 13 species, which included these species and the number of points they were "captured" at: Bear (39), Bobcat (3), Coyote (5), Domestic Cat (1), Domestic Dog (2), Raccoon (11), Opossum (3), Gray Squirrel (8), Flying Squirrel (1), Chipmunk (1), Groundhog (1), Turkey (3), and Deer (50).

For Scientific Studies (not Science Education Activities), were any specimens collected and removed from the park but not destroyed during analysis?

No

Funding specifically used in this park this reporting year that was provided by NPS (enter dollar amount):
\$0

Funding specifically used in this park this reporting year that was provided by all other sources (enter dollar amount):
\$6500

List any other U.S. Government Agencies supporting this study or activity and the funding each provided this reporting year:

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.625 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the forms. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to Dr. John G. Dennis, Natural Resources (3127 MIB), National Park Service, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20240.